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Very completely the diarist, as a youth of seventeen, portrays the life of the *grande monde* of European capitals and five years later he declared: "I have not the slightest temptation to gamble about my one and only virtue." The diary, in general, bears evidence of its authenticity, although some alterations were made in 1869 (see p. 51). The second wife of Albert Gallatin was from Maryland and not New England, as stated by Viscount Bryce in the introduction (p. x).

J. A. JAMES

George Hamilton Perkins, commodore, U.S.N. His life and letters. By Carroll Storrs Alden, Ph.D., instructor in English, U.S. Naval Academy. (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1914. 302 p. \$1.50 net)

The letters of Commodore Perkins, which form the basis of this biography, are interesting chiefly as revealing the routine that made up the life of the American naval officer before the day of the modern navy. Their author was born in 1836, educated (as far as he would permit, for he was dismissed for poor scholarship) at the new Naval Academy at Annapolis, and broken in by patrol duty on the Isthmian and the West African coasts. He was retired under age, because of heart trouble, in 1891, having followed the service into every corner of the seas. His career was uneventful, as naval careers go, save for his signal work at the battle of Mobile bay and the capture of New Orleans. After the latter engagement he was one of the spectacular two, Captain Theodorus Bailey being the other, who went ashore without escort and pushed their way through the angry populace of New Orleans to demand the surrender of the city. The book shows signs of having been written for the family interest, but the career that it describes was creditable and the story is worth telling.

F. L. P.

A Walloon family in America. Lockwood de Forest and his forbears, 1500-1848. Together with a voyage to Guiana, being the journal of Jesse de Forest and his colonists, 1623-1625. By Mrs. Robert W. de Forest. In two volumes. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1914. 314; 391 p. \$5.00 net)

Some librarians are said to find their greatest pleasure not in reading but in classifying a book. Certain readers find their interest maintained by the variety of subjects with which a book deals. To both of these groups of people the volumes before us will appeal, for they include bibliography, biography, description, history, and travel. Undertaken as the life-story of Lockwood de Forest, 1775-1848, the work developed